

Need a translation?

Before you watch

1 Try to match the quotes (1-4) with the people.

- 1 'Money is not the only answer, but it makes a difference.'
- 2 'My one regret in life is that I am not someone else.'
- 3 'A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.'
- 4 'The tractor beam is coupled to the main reactor in seven locations.'

- ___ Albert Einstein
- ___ Barack Obama
- ___ C-3PO (android from the film *Star Wars*)
- ___ Woody Allen

2 Try to translate the quotes in exercise 1 into your first language.

3 Which of these tools did you use to help you with the translation?

- ___ a bilingual dictionary
- ___ a monolingual dictionary
- ___ an online dictionary
- ___ an online translation site
- ___ a phone
- ___ none of the above or other

While you watch

4 Watch the video and choose the best title.

- 1 Visit Google's new Internet translation site.
- 2 Google has a new translation tool for your phone.
- 3 C-3PO is the cool new translation tool.

5 Complete the sentences using six of the words in the box.

automatically British coffee fluently hamburger Japanese
languages places translate

- 1 C-3PO could speak over 6 million languages _____.
- 2 Now Google wants to create its own android that can _____.
- 3 David Sarno says: 'I am very hungry for a _____'.
- 4 It can understand spoken English, Mandarin and _____.
- 5 And it can render text translations in over 50 other _____.
- 6 It uses Google's vast network of servers that have been learning to translate _____.

6 Watch the first half of the video (0:00-0:50) to check your answers to exercise 5.

7 Watch the second half of the video (0:50-1:37) and decide if the statements are true or false. Correct the false statements.

- 1 Tiffany Hsu speaks to the phone in Japanese.
- 2 On the phone's screen it says 'Talk now'.
- 3 The English translation is: My computer has a lot of problems.
- 4 If you don't have an android phone, you can go to translate.google.com.
- 5 David's last words are: 'Good bye.'

After you watch

8 Read the news story and answer the questions: 'The free application, called Google Translate, works on phones running Google's Android operating system. Although it can only currently recognise three spoken languages, experts believe it won't be long before the technology will allow speakers of two different languages to have a live conversation using speech-to-speech translation.'

1 Do you think Google Translate is a useful application?

2 In what ways might speech-to-speech translation change the way we live in the future? Think of business, politics, travel, etc.

3 Why do you think people will still need to study languages in the future?

8 Go to <http://translate.google.com> and type in the text from exercise 8. Translate it into your own language. Do you think it's an accurate translation?

Glossary

android (*noun*) - a machine that looks and behaves like a human

application (*noun*) - a piece of computer software to do a particular job

cool (*adjective*) - good, fashionable

couple (*verb*) - to join

reactor (*noun*) - a machine for producing energy

regret (*verb*) - to feel sorry that something has happened

render (*verb*) - to translate something

tool (*noun*) - something you use to perform a job

tractor beam (*noun*) - a hypothetical device in technology attracts an object from a distance

vast (*adjective*) - very big